

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DUBLIN 00861 031655Z

62

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

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FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5769

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DUBLIN 0861

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, EI

SUBJ: NEW MAYORS CHOSEN

1. FOR THE RECORD, NEW LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN IS JAMES O'KEEFFE OF FINE GAEL PARTY. HE WAS ELECTED TO POST JUNE 28 BY HIS COLLEAGUES ON RECENTLY-ELECTED DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL. (MAYORALTY ELECTIONS ARE INDIRECT). O'KEEFE IS 62 AND A LONG-TIME CITY COUNCILLOR. HE ONCE PREVIOUSLY HELD MAYORALTY IN 1962/63. ON THIS OCCASION, HE WILL TRANSFER OFFICE TO A LABOR COUNCILLOR AFTER ONE YEAR.
2. NEW LORD MAYOR OF CORK IS PEARSE WYSE, WHO SERVES AS A DAIL DEPUTY. HE IS A MEMBER OF FIANNA FAIL PARTY.
3. COMMENT: IRISH MAYORS HAVE LARGEDLY CEREMONIAL FUNCTION AND OFTEN SERVE ONLY FOR SHORT PERIODS. JOB IS USUALLY NOT RPT NOT A STEPPING STONE TO NATIONAL POLITICS. INFO IS REPORTED BECAUSE WE HAVE FOUND THAT MANY AMERICAN VISITORS ASK ABOUT MAYORS.
4. MOST INTERESTING ANGLE POLITICALLY IS THAT FINE GAEL/LABOR COALITION SEEMS TO BE FUNCTIONING AT DUBLIN CITY LEVEL AND IN SOME OTHER LOCAL COUNCILS. LOCAL COOPERATION CLEARLY HELPS CHANCES OF SURVIVAL OF NATIONAL COALITION. MOORE

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